



The national charity for the promotion and teaching of bridge



Working to provide bridge for all

What is EBED?

English Bridge Education & Development (EBED) is the national charity for teaching and promoting duplicate bridge in England. It operates independently, but has a strong working relationship with the English Bridge Union (EBU).

EBED works with: all bridge groups including affiliated and unaffiliated bridge clubs, county bridge associations, schools, and universities; all bridge teachers, students, and players, including EBU members and non-members.



Why was EBED set up?

Our mission is to help more people play, and benefit from, this wonderful mind sport.

Bridge is a stimulating and enjoyable activity, and can be played by anyone, of any age. There is a growing body of evidence that there are significant health and wellbeing benefits to playing bridge. School teachers also believe that playing bridge can help improve academic performance and social skills in young people.

Establishing EBED has offered:

- financial advantages, including access to additional sources of funding;
- opportunities for new partnerships and more chances to introduce bridge to a wider audience.



How is EBED run?

A group of Trustees give their time as volunteers because they want to build a generation of new bridge players, who can both derive pleasure and gain benefit from the game. They help to oversee the development of the charity's main policies and objectives.

The day-to-day running of the charity's activities is carried out by a small professional staff working from offices in Aylesbury.

EBED is also very grateful for the contribution it receives from numerous volunteers around the country, in bridge clubs, county bridge associations, schools and other organisations.

How is EBED funded?

EBED gets its funds from two main sources: an annual donation from the English Bridge Union; and through the sale of educational material and the provision of training courses.

We are also very grateful to the generous individuals who make donations to us to support the development of bridge in England.



What has EBED done so far?

We commenced operations in April 2014, and after working to establish a solid foundation on which we could base our activities, we have made good progress in a number of areas. We have:

- Launched Fast Track Bridge - a scheme which streamlines the process for learning to play bridge, and get beginners playing in just 24 hours of lessons.
- Refreshed the Bridge for All teaching materials to update the content and give a more modern appearance.
- Improved the services available to bridge teachers through the English Bridge Teachers Association (EBTA).
- Run courses nationwide to enable people to teach bridge in their club.
- Organised the Student and Schools Sim Pairs, introducing new players to national duplicate competitions early in their bridge careers.
- Introduced the Junior Award Scheme. As young bridge players learn and demonstrate new skills, they can achieve one of six graded attainment levels.



- Run and supported a number of successful events for junior bridge players, including residential bridge weekends and one day competitions; supported local/regional junior bridge initiatives; expanded the number of schools and youth groups in which bridge is taught and played.
- Updated the content and format of the Director training courses, and continue to run these courses throughout the country.

- Started research, in conjunction with Stirling University, into the health and wellbeing benefits of playing bridge.

Our annual trading activity continues to be successful, and generates a surplus which enables us to fund future projects.



What does the future look like?

The future is bright and EBED is positioned to deliver significant public benefit.

Over the next few years we plan to:

- Provide practical and financial support to local groups working with schools and involved in teaching young people to play bridge or minibridge.
- Significantly increase the number of students directly taught by EBED.
- Provide greater support to EBTA members, and broaden EBTA's appeal to all bridge teachers; develop a national database of bridge teaching to enable increased promotion of lessons and learning opportunities.
- Trial online teaching and supervised play sessions.
- Continue to support research into the medical and social benefits of playing bridge, working with Stirling University and Imperial College on suitable projects.
- Provide small grants for suitable projects put forward by groups and individuals.



How can I help?

There are a number of ways that you could help us:

- By helping with bridge on a local, county or regional scale. Help is often particularly needed to develop youth bridge. Please get in touch with your local county bridge association, or their County Youth Officer, or contact us and we can provide their details.
- By playing in EBED Simultaneous Pairs competitions, held in May and September, which generate funds to help support specific projects undertaken by EBED.
- By attending one of our teacher, or director, training courses. This not only supports the events, but provides you with the skills to help more people enjoy the game.
- By making a financial contribution – see www.ebedcio.org.uk/donate for details on making a single or regular donation, or on making a provision in your will.

www.ebedcio.org.uk

info@ebedcio.org.uk 01296 317217

English Bridge Education and Development is a charitable incorporated organisation established under the Charities Act 2011, Registered Charity No. 1153543

